

Testimony for Public Safety Hearing
March 14, 2013

As a mother and a concerned citizen of Connecticut, I am submitting my testimony for the Public Safety Hearing taking place today. In my opinion, changes and/or enforcement of our current gun laws is not a Second Amendment issue, but a human rights issue. The safety and well being of my family is the most important thing to me and more guns in the hands of my neighbors does not make me feel safe. I see no reason for any civilian to own a weapon that is capable of firing more than 10 bullets in a matter of seconds.

After spending the day at the Legislative Office Building on March 13, 2013, I talked to some State Legislators and/or aides who gave me many different points of view to consider. One thing that had not seemed important to me but became very relevant to me was the non-existent laws for the purchase of ammunition for any gun. A weapon is useless without any ammunition. It makes sense to require background checks and permits for any individual wishing to purchase ammunition. If a gun is legally owned and registered by an individual, this should not cause a problem. If the gun is obtained illegally, then an ammunition permit restriction may help curb gun violence in our towns and cities. Furthermore, legitimate gun ownership rights would not be infringed upon or jeopardized; the ownership of the ammunition to power these weapons would require the same investigation as ownership of a firearm.

A change to our current laws like this would not have prevented the tragedy at Sandy Hook. That is not to say a change to our laws like this could have prevented other mass shootings in which ammunition was purchased by the assailants without a single question. Common sense, however, is lacking in our society when it comes to gun ownership and presumed gun rights. Personal responsibility and accountability is lacking in society in general. In the memory of the 26 innocent women and children brutally murdered by a clearly disturbed young man on December 14, 2012, I feel it is my personal responsibility as a mother and a citizen of Connecticut to make sure their deaths result in a meaningful and effective change to our current gun laws and to prevent tragedies such as this to occur again.

Respectfully submitted,

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